

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

We believe we are the inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **"METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RUNTIME MERGING OF HIERARCHICAL TREES"**

(X) is attached hereto.
() was filed by an authorized person on my behalf on _____ as Application No. _____
and was amended on _____.
(if applicable)

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

Priority
Claimed
(Yes or No)

No

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between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
60/296,814	June 7, 2001	Pending

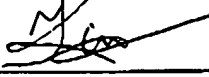
We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint Coudert Brothers, a firm including J.D. Harriman, Reg. No. 31,967, Micah Goldsmith, Reg. No. 43,638, and Sun Microsystems, Inc., a corporation, including Kenneth Olsen, Reg. No. 26,493, Timothy J. Crean, Reg. No. 37,116, Alexander E. Silverman, Reg. No. 37,940, Anirima R. Gupta, Reg. No. 38,275, Sean P. Lewis, Reg. No. 42,798, Michael J. Schallop, Reg. No. 44,319, Bernice B. Chen, Reg. No. 42,403, Noreen A. Krall, Reg. No. 39,734, Richard J. Lutton, Reg. 39,756, Monica D. Ward, Reg. No. 40,696, Marc D. Foodman, Reg. No. 34,110, Naren Chaganti, Reg. No. 44,602, Elaine Lee, Reg. No. 41,936, Hugh H. Matsubayashi, Reg. No. 43,779, Paul D. Sorkin, Reg. No. 39,039, Marilyn E. Glaubenslee, Reg. No. 35,521, Ramin Aghevli, Reg. No. 43,462, Andrew C. Chen, Reg. No. 43,544, and Jeffrey L. Myers, Reg. No. 44,252 with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to COUDERT BROTHERS, 333 South Hope Street, Suite 2300, Los Angeles, California 90071, Telephone No. (213) 229-2900, Customer No. 23600.

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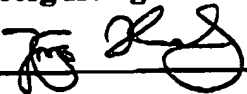
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